CONSTITUTION
OF
THE MENTASTA TRIBE

PREAMBLE

We, the aboriginal people and descendants of the Mentasta Tribe, having a common bond of association through culture, language, land, heritage, and living within the customary and traditional lands of the Taa' Tl'aa Deneay, (Headwater People) of Mentasta, Alaska, in order to promote our internal and international peace and security, our social well being, and to fully exercise our inherent rights of self - determination and self - governance in accordance with of the Charter of the United Nations, hereby adopt for ourselves this Constitution.

ARTICLE I
NAME AND JURISDICTION

Section 1:

The official name of the Tribe shall be the Mentasta Tribe, and the official name of this Tribal Government shall be: Mentasta Traditional Council, herein after referred to as Tribal Council.

Section 2:

The jurisdiction of the Mentasta Traditional Council of Alaska shall extend to all lands constituting the dependent Indian Country of Mentasta as defined by Federal Law.

Section 3:

Hunting, Fishing and Gathering rights. Nothing in this Article shall be construed as restricting the exercise of hunting, fishing and gathering rights of tribal members, when consistent with Federal law.

ARTICLE II
MEMBERSHIP

Section 1: BASE MEMBERSHIP ROLL

The base membership roll of the base Mentasta Tribe shall consist of all persons whose name appears on the official membership roll of Mentasta Tribe and, "certified by the Bureau of Indian Affairs after the December 31, 1995 submission." Provided that, the Enrollment Committee may correct the Base Membership Roll within three (3) years from the effective date of this Constitution subject to the certification of the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

Section 2: QUALIFICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP

Any blood descendent of any person who was originally enrolled to the Mentasta Tribe under the current base roll may, and upon application, be enrolled after providing application and proof of:

(a) physical residence in the Tribal Village of Mentasta Lake, Alaska for a period of at least one (1) year; or

(b) descendence from an enrolled members of the Mentasta Tribe; or

(c) enrolled under Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act; or

(d) membership based on approval by the Mentasta Tribal Council pursuant to this Article.

Section 3: QUALIFICATIONS FOR NON VOTING MEMBERSHIP

Any persons of American or Alaska Indian heritage who meets any of the following qualification shall be eligible to be a member of the Mentasta Tribe by adoption. Such persons shall not be entitle to hold elective office or vote in the village election pursuant to this Constitution;

(a) Indian and a citizen of the United States of America; or

(b) physically resided in the Tribal Village of Mentasta Lake, Alaska for a period of a least one (1) year; or

(c) an Indian and married into a Mentasta tribal family; or

(d) children of base members who were not descendants of Mentasta Indians.

Section 4: ADOPTED MEMBERS

All adopted members have a right to tribal services, but are restricted in their voting privileges.

Section 5: DUAL MEMBERSHIP

A child member of the Mentasta Tribe may also be a member of another tribe until 18 years of age; and

(a) then he/she must elect one tribe for membership; or

(b) remain non-voting member of Mentasta Tribe; or

(c) otherwise dual membership is prohibited unless the second tribe does not prohibit dual membership, and the person physically resides in Mentasta.

SECTION 6: LOSS OF MEMBERSHIP

Any persons may willingly give up his or her membership, or that membership may be taken away for good cause by the Tribe.

SECTION 7: REGULATION OF MEMBERSHIP

The Tribal Council shall have the power to enact ordinances and resolutions, not inconsistent, with this Constitution and/or federal law, prescribing rules and regulations governing membership, including applications and appeal procedures, loss of membership and adoption of members. The Tribal Council's adopted membership ordinances, are subject to the review of the Bureau of Indian Affairs. Only to the extend of distribution of assets to tribal members.

ARTICLE III
BILL OF RIGHTS

Section 1: RIGHT OF MEMBERSHIP

All members of the community of Mentasta Lake shall enjoy without hindrance the freedom of religion, speech, press, assembly and association.

Section 2:

This Constitution shall in no way alter, abridge, or otherwise jeopardize the rights and privileges of the members of the Mentasta Tribe in their free association with the United States of America.

Section 3:

Members of the tribe shali have the right to review the tribal records at any time reasonable in accordance with the procedures established by the Tribal Council.

Section 4:

The protections guaranteed to all individuals and to all tribal members are set forth in the Human Rights, Universal Declaration of, 1948, United Nations General Assembly, hereto attached and incorporated by reference.

Section 5: INDIAN CIVIL RIGHTS ACT

No Indian tribe in exercising powers of self-government shall:

(a) Make or enforce any law prohibiting the free exercise of religion, or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press, or the right of the people peaceably to assemble and to petition for a redress of grievances;

(b) Violate the right of the people to be secure in their persons houses, papers, and effects against unreasonable search and seizures, nor issue warrants, but upon probable cause, supported by oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched and the person or thing to be seized;

(c) Subject any person for the same offense to be twice put in jeopardy;

(d) Compel any person in any criminal case to be a witness against himself;

(e) Take any private property for public use without just compensation;

(f) Deny to any person in a criminal proceeding the right to a speedy and public trial, to be informed of the nature and cause of the accusation, to confront the witness against him, to have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor, and at his own expense to have the assistance of counsel for his defense;

(g) Require excessive bail, impose excessive fines, inflict cruel and unusual punishments, and in no event impose for conviction of any one offense any penalty or punishment greater than imprisonment for a term of six months or a fine of $500.00 or both, except for civil penalty may exceed this amount;

(h) Deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of its laws or deprive any person of liberty or property without due process of law;

(i) Pass any bill of attainder or ex post facto law;

(j) Deny to any person accused of an offense punishable by imprisonment the right, upon request, to a trial by jury of not less than six persons;

(k) The privilege of the writ of **habeas corpus** shall be available to any person in a court of the United States, to test the legality of his detention by orders of an Indian tribe.

Section 6: RIGHTS OF INDIANS DEFINITIONS

For purposes of the tribe these terms mean:

(a) "Indian Tribe" means any tribe band, or other group of Indians subject to the jurisdiction of the United States and recognized as possessing powers of self-government;

(b) "Indian" means any member of such a tribe.

(c) "Powers of self-government" means and includes all governmental powers possessed by an Indian tribe, executive, legislative, and judicial, and all offices, bodies, and courts by and through which these powers are executed, including courts of Indian offenses as exercised by the Tribal Council;

(d) "Indian court" means any Indian tribal court or court of Indian offense appointed by the Tribal Council.

(e) "Indian Custom and Tradition" Means and includes all customary procedures by which meetings shall be conducted and the order in which tribal business, shall be addressed as stated in Article XIV, Section 1 and 2.

ARTICLE IV
GOVERNING BODY

Section 1: COMPOSITION

The Tribal Council shall consist of five (5) members, and an Honorary Elder with voting rights, who advises the Tribal Council. Tribal Council shall be elected by a majority vote of the members of the tribe casting a vote at that election.

Section 2: OFFICERS

The Tribal Council shall include a First Chief, Second Chief, Secretary/Treasurer, and two (2) Tribal Council members and an Honorary Elder.

ARTICLE V
POWERS OF THE GOVERNING BODY

Section 1: ENUMERATED POWERS

The Mentasta Traditional Council shall exercise the following powers:

(a) Consult and negotiate with any government or other entity and to conclude contracts, grants treaties, or other agreements on all matters within the jurisdiction of the Mentasta Traditional Council.

(b) Advise the Secretaries of Interior, Commerce, and Treasury with regard to all appropriations estimates for federal projects for the benefit of the tribe of Mentasta Lake, Alaska prior to the submission of such estimates to federal agencies or to the Office of Management and Budget and to the Congress.

(c) Employ legal counsel.

(d) Regulate, manage, lease, or otherwise deal with tribal assets and to prevent the sale, disposition, lease or other encumbrance of tribal lands, interest in lands or other assets without the consent the Mentasta Tribal membership.

(e) Charter subordinate community enterprises, corporations, associations, commissions, authorities, and other entities.

(f) Administer, protect, and preserve all natural resources within the jurisdiction of the Mentasta Traditional Council, or which the Tribal Council has an interest in, and to regulate, manage and control all activity with regard to all natural resource in accordance with applicable Tribal Law.

(g) Manage the economic affairs of the Tribe and to establish and operate such commercial ventures as it may deem to be in the best interest of the tribe.

(h) Enact ordinances consistent with Article II of this Constitution regulating future membership, loss of membership, and adoption of members into the tribe.

(i) Manage and exercise responsibility over all funds within the control of the Tribal Council, and to appropriate available federal funds for public business and governmental purposes. Provided that such appropriations of federal funds are incorporated into and expended in conformity with annual budgets approved by the Secretaries of Interior, Commerce, and Treasury, or their authorized representative. The Tribal Council shall provide for adequate accounting of all financial transactions, and adequate bonding of officials and employees who are directly responsible for the receipt, and disbursement and custody of all funds when needed.

(j) Assess fees and levy taxes for the payment of expenses and the provision of services by the Tribal Council or to finance any public projects which the Tribal Council deems to be in the best interest of the tribe.

(k) Take such actions as are necessary by the enactment of codes, ordinances, and resolutions or by any other means to carry into effect any of the enumerated powers stated in this constitution or reserved powers of the membership.

(l) Establish Tribal rules and procedures for conducting its affairs and by appropriate ordinances or resolution delegate to any subordinate entity, committee, officer, or employee, any of the powers and duties contained herein, reserving the rights to review all actions of those to whom such power has been delegated.

(m) Encourage and foster Native arts, crafts, culture and traditions by requiring their incorporation into the regular school curriculum.

(n) Maintain law and order, and establish a Tribal Court for the enforcement of the Articles contained in this Constitution and to interpret tribal law and other laws affecting tribal members.

(o) Promote and safeguard the general health, education, safety, welfare and international peace and security of all Tribal Members of Mentasta, Alaska.

(p) Acquire, purchase, receive, lease, gift, receive by inheritance the transfer of land and property and maintain Tribal lands and other property.

(q) Raise revenue.

ARTICLE VI
ELECTIONS

Section 1: VOTER QUALIFICATIONS

Any duly enrolled members of the Mentasta Tribe, eighteen (18) years of age or older shall be entitled to vote in the that election, unless membership privileges are restricted.

Section 2: ELECTION

The first election of officials under this Constitution shall be held on the effective date of this constitution for those seats which are vacant or expired at that time. A system of staggered terms shall then be established. At the first election under this Constitution the First Chief and a Council Member as their alternates shall be elected to hold office for a term of three (3) years. The Second Chief and a Council Member shall be elected to hold office for a term of two (2) years. Secretary/Treasurer shall be elected to hold office for a term of one (1) year and the Honorary Elder shall be appointed for a life term. Thereafter, all terms of office shall be filled at their respective expiration for three (3) year terms by the membership at the annual election. Members shall hold office until their successors are duly elected and seated.

Section 3: NOMINATIONS

The time, place and manner of nominations shall be specified in the election ordinance adopted pursuant to Section 4 of this Article.

Section 4: ELECTION ORDINANCE

An election ordinance, consistent with this Constitution shall be drafted by the Election Board and shall be adopted by the Tribal Council within six (6) months following the effective date of this Constitution. The ordinance shall set forth the procedures to be followed in conducting each of the various types of elections called for in this Constitution. The election ordinance may be amended and/or revised at any time as needed. The ordinance shall include provisions for conducting all tribal elections by secret ballot, qualification of candidates, maintenance of a current

list of eligible voters, and the settling of election disputes by the Election Board. The Election Board is to be appointed pursuant to Section 5 of this Article. The ordinance shall spell out the procedure and format to be used whenever it is necessary to submit petitions for any purpose to the Tribal Council and set forth a procedure by which the Election Board determines the validity of such petitions.

Section 5: ELECTION BOARD

The Tribal Council shall appoint an Election Board to serve for three (3) years whose duties shall be to supervise, administer, and conduct all tribal elections. The Election Board shall certify the election of tribal officials within ten (10) days after the election. In the event of election disputes, the determination of the Election Board will be final. Any appeal would be to the Tribal Council. The Election Board will have the authority to determine the validity of petitions submitted to the Tribal Council for any purpose in accordance with procedures developed in the election ordinance mandated in Section 4 of this Article. No member of the Election Board shall at the same time be a member of the Tribal Council or a candidate for a position on the Tribal Council.

ARTICLE VII
REMOVAL, RECALL, FORFEITURE, AND VACANCIES

Section 1: REMOVAL

Any Tribal Council member found guilty by the Tribal Council of behavior involving gross misconduct in office or neglect of duty shall be removed from office if at least five (5) members of the Tribal Council vote in favor of such removal. Voting must be by secret ballot and the First Chief, unless accused, is entitled to vote. The accused shall have no right to cast a ballot. Before any vote for removal is taken, the person subject to removal shall be given a written statement of the charges against him or her at least ten (10) days before the meeting of the Tribal Council at which the person is to appear and the accused person shall be given the opportunity to answer any and all charges at the designated Tribal Council meeting. If the person subject to removal fails to appear before the Tribal Council, the Tribal Council decision shall be final. No member of the Tribal Council shall preside over the meeting at which his or her removal is being considered.

Section 2: RECALL

Voting members shall have the power to recall any member of the Tribal Council. The recall process shall be initiated by filing a valid petition with the Tribal

Council asking for such recall, signed by at least ten percent (10%) of the eligible voters, and setting forth the reasons for the petition. Within thirty (30) days after receipt of a valid recall petition, the Tribal Council shall call and conduct an election to consider the recall of the member named in the petition. Once an individual has been subjected to recall proceedings, that person shall not again be subject to such action during the balance of their current term in office.

Section 3: FORFEITURE

If any member of the Tribal Council shall be found guilty of a felony in any Federal or state court, or by death, resignation or is absent for three (3) consecutive meetings without being excused by the Tribal Council, the member shall automatically forfeit office and membership on the Tribal Council.

Section 4: VACANCIES

Any office which has been vacated, whether it be by removal, recall or forfeiture, shall be filled by appointment of the elected alternate, and in the non-availability of such alternate, by majority vote of the remaining Tribal Council whether consisting of a quorum or not and such appointed replacement shall serve until the next annual election.

ARTICLE VIII
POPULAR PARTICIPATION IN GOVERNMENT

Section 1: INITIATIVE

The eligible voters of the tribe shall have the right to propose legislation and vote by secret ballot to determine whether it will be adopted or rejected. Upon receipt of a valid petition signed by at least ten percent (10%) of the eligible voters, the Tribal Council shall call an election to be conducted by the Election Board no later than thirty (30) days after receipt of the petition. An affirmative vote by at least a majority of the eligible voters shall be required to determine the issues or questions submitted to the voters. "Unless the pettition requests that the issue raised in the petition be placed on the ballot of the next scheduled tribal election or annual meeting."

Section 2: REFERENDUM

The Tribal Council by an affirmative vote of at least three (3) of its members shall call an election to be conducted by the Election Board within thirty (30) days of such Tribal Council decision for the purpose of deciding by secret ballot issues or questions submitted to the membership voters.

Section 3:

The decision of the Tribal voters in both initiative and referendum elections shall be binding on the Tribal Council and the tribe and shall remain in force until amended or rescinded by subsequent action of the voters or expires by its own terms.

ARTICLE IX
ADOPTION OF CONSTITUTION

Section 1:

This Constitution, and any amendment to it, shall be adopted by a majority vote of the voting members of the Mentasta Tribe voting at an election called for that purpose with at least thirty percent (30%) of the voting membership who casting a vote for approval or rejection. The Constitution or Amendment shall be effective from the date of such approval.

ARTICLE X
SEVERABILITY

If any provision of this Constitution shall be declared invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the invalid provision shall be severed and the remaining provisions shall continue in full force and effect.

ARTICLE XI
SAVING CLAUSE

All previous ordinances and resolutions shall remain in effect to the extent that they are not inconsistent with this Constitution or future amendments.

ARTICLE XII
AMENDMENTS

This Constitution may be amended by a majority vote of the eligible voting members of the Mentasta Tribe voting in an election called for that purpose by the Tribal Members. Provided, at least thirty percent (30%) of those entitled to vote shall vote in such election. No amendment shall become effective until such election.

ARTICLE XIII
DUTIES OF OFFICE

Section 1:

The First Chief, of the Mentasta Tribe shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the Tribal Government; and shall have general charge of the business, affairs and properties of the Tribal Government, and shall exercise general supervision over other officers, employees, and agents of the tribe. The First Chief shall perform all duties incidental to the office of the First Chief, and have full power to vote and shall see that the resolutions and enactment of the Tribal Members and the elected Tribal Council are carried into effect. The First Chief may sign or otherwise enter into contracts, or agreements on behalf of the Tribal Government when specifically authorized to do so by appropriate enactment of the Tribal Council, but shall have no power to contract on behalf of the Tribal Government unless specifically so authorized. The First Chief shall use his/her own discretion in determining the activities that will further the purposes of the Tribal Government. Shall preside at all meetings of the Tribal Members and elected Tribal Council, and affairs of the tribe that are subject to a majority vote of the Tribal Members. The First Chief shall have absolute discretion in all matters affecting the Tribal Government for which he/she is authorized to act. The First Chief shall also submit an annual report of the operations of the Tribal Government to the Tribal Members at the annual meeting. In the absence of the First Chief or Second Chief, the First Chief is authorized to designate a Tribal Council Member and to delegate authority to that person to act on behalf of the Tribal Council and Members.

Section 2:

The Second Chief shall, in the absence of the First Chief, perform the duties and exercise the powers of the First Chief and shall generally assist the First Chief and perform such other duties as from time may be assign to him/her by the First Chief or the elected Tribal Council and Tribal Members.

Section 3:

(a) The Secretary/Treasurer shall give, or shall cause to be given, notice of all regular and special meetings of the Tribal Members and the elected Tribal Council. Shall keep a record of the enrolled membership, and shall keep the minutes of the meetings of the elected Tribal Council and Tribal Members. Shall maintain the Tribal Seal, and shall see that the books, reports statements and all other documents required by law are properly kept and filed. Shall perform such other duties as may be assigned to him/her from time to time by the First Chief, the elected Tribal Council or the Tribal Members. This office may be filled by either one or two person at desecration of the elected Tribal Council.

(b) The Secretary/Treasurer shall review all Tribal funds and other valuable effects, shall review accounts of receipts and disbursements in the books belonging to the Tribal Government. Shall review and disburse funds of the Tribal Government working in close cooperation with the First Chief. May be ordered by the elected Tribal Council, and shall render to the elected Tribal Council and Tribal Members all documents reports, accounts, and papers of the tribe. On a periodic basis give an account of all his/her transactions as Treasurer and of the financial conditions of the Tribal Government on an annual basis to the membership. He/she shall perform such other duties as may be assigned from time to time by the First Chief, the elected Tribal Council, and Tribal Members.

ARTICLE XIV
CONDUCT OF MEETINGS

Section 1:

All meetings shall be conducted in accordance with Indian custom and tradition, as stated in Section 2 of this Arcticle.

Section 2:

Order of business:

1. Call to order
2. Invocation or moment of silence
3. Roll call
4. Approval of Agenda
5. Adoption of minutes
6. Reports
7. Old or unfinished business
8. New business
9. Executive Session
10. Date and time of next meeting.
11. Adjournment

ARTICLE XV
MEETINGS

Section 1:

Regular meetings of the Tribal Council shall be held on the first Wednesday of each month at a time designated by the Tribal Council. Special meetings of the Tribal Council may be called by the First Chief and shall be called by him/her upon receipt of a petition signed by at least three (3) members of the Tribal Council and when so called, the Tribal Council shall have power to transact business as in regular meetings, provided that a quorum is present.

Section 2:

A **quorum** of the Tribal Council shall consist of three (3) members of the Tribal Council. No business shall be transacted unless a quorum is present.

Section 3:

All meetings of the Tribal Council shall be open to the tribal membership of Mentasta provided, that the Tribal Council may recess at its discretion to discuss any matter in a closed or executive session, if the general subject matter to be discussed is expressed in the motion calling for such session and no final or official action is taken thereon in the closed or executive session with the exception to all matters of confidential nature which are not to be reflected in the motion.

Section 4:

All final decisions, meetings of the Tribal Council on matters of general or permanent interest to members shall be embodied in ordinances. The ordinances shall be collected and made available to tribal members and others affected upon request at a reasonable time. Prior to final approval of any ordinance there shall be a period for public comment for ten (10) working days.

Section 5:

All final decisions of the Tribal Council meetings on matters of temporary interest shall be embodied in resolutions. Resolutions shall be collected and made available to tribal members and others affected upon request at a reasonable time.

Section 6:

Annual meetings of the general membership of the Mentasta Tribe shall be held at least once annually in September. The date, time, and place of such meetings shall be set by the First Chief or shall be called by him/her upon receipt of a petition signed by at least thirty percent (30%) of the tribal members.

Section 7:

No specific percentage of the current membership shall be necessary to constitute a quorum for the conduct of business at such annual meeting of the Tribal Members. With the exception of thirty percent (30%) of elections to adopt or rejected this Constitution or Amendments to it.

ARTICLE XVI
COMMUNITY ENACTMENT'S

Section 1: ORDINANCES

All final decisions on matters of general and permanent interest to members of the tribe shall be embodied in ordinances such as a tax ordinance or an election ordinance, and membership ordinance or any regulatory ordinance. Such enactment's shall be available for inspection by members of the tribe during normal office hours.

Section 2: RESOLUTIONS AND MOTIONS

All final decisions on matters of short term or of one time interest where a formal expression is needed, shall be embodied in resolutions. Other decisions of a temporary nature or relating to particular individual officers, or committees shall be put in the form of motions and noted in the minutes of the meetings and shall be available for inspection by members of the tribe during normal office hours.

RATIFICATION OF THE
CONSTITUTION OF THE
MENTASTA TRIBE

TERRITORY OF ALASKA)
)
) SS.
)
THIRD DISTRICT)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Be it remembered that on this September 23, 1995, appearing respectively, and found to be true and in due form, The Mentasta Tribe Executive Officers, First Chief, C. Nora David; Second Chief, Eva John; Secretary/Treasurer, Dale John; Council Member, Sandy John; Council Member, John Sanford; Senior Tribal Honorary Elder, Katie John; execute this instrument of ratification on behalf of the people of the Tribe of Mentasta Lake, Alaska in accordance with their authority as the Executive Officers of the Mentasta Tribe in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations for the purposes and principles herein stated.

First Chief

Council Member

Second Chief

Council Member

Secretary/Treasurer

Honorary Elder Member

CERTIFICATION OF THE TRIBAL ELECTION

We the undersigned, Election Board of the Mentasta Tribe having officiated over the Tribal Election held at the Community Hall on Saturday, September 23, 1995, do hereby certify that according to our official count there were 25 tribal members eligible to vote at the election. There were 24 ballots cast in person with 1 ballots soiled. This resulted in 25 total ballots cast in this election.

Candidates elected for Council were the following:

C. Nora David

Rosemarie Rice

Robert John, Jr.

Sandy John

Tribal issue that passed were:

Mentasta Tribe Constitution

Ramona David — Election Board — Sept. 23, 1995 — Date

Peggy Keesecker — Election Board — Sept. 23, 1995 — Date

Linnea John — Election Board — Sept. 23, 1995 — Date

HUMAN RIGHTS, UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF, 1948. The name of a UN document adopted Dec. 10, 1948 by the General Assembly by 48 votes in favor and eight members abstaining: Saudi Arabia, Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia, Poland, the Republic of South Africa, Ukrainian SSR and the USSR. The socialist States abstained because the majority deleted amendments proposed by those states which postulated; (1) equality not only of all people, but of all nations; (2) abolition of capital punishment in peacetime; (3) a ban on fascist propaganda, as well as militarist and racist propaganda as anti-human. The Republic of South Africa and Saudi Arabia abstained because they considered the Declaration too progressive. The text of the Declaration reads:

Whereas recognition of the inherent dignity and of the equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family is the foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world, whereas disregard and contempt for human rights have resulted in barbarous acts which have outraged the conscience of mankind, and the advent of a world in which human beings shall enjoy freedom of speech and belief and freedom from fear and want has been proclaimed as the highest aspiration of the common people,

Whereas it is essential, if man is not to be compelled to have recourse, as a last resort, to rebellion against tyranny and oppression, that human rights should be protested by the rule of law,

Whereas it is essential to promote the development of friendly relations between nations,

Whereas the peoples of the United Nations have in the Charter reaffirmed their faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person and in the equal rights of men and women and have determined to promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedoms,

Whereas Member-States have pledged themselves to achieve, in cooperation with the United Nations, the promotion of universal respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Whereas a common understanding of these rights and freedoms is of the greatest importance for the full realization of this pledge.

Now, therefore, the General Assembly proclaims this Universal Declaration of Human Rights as a common standard of achievement for all peoples and all nations, to the end that every individual and every organ of society, keeping this Declaration constantly in mind, shall strive by teaching and education to promote respect for these rights and freedoms and by progressive measures, national and international, to secure their universal and effective recognition and observance, both among the people of Member-States themselves and among the peoples of territories under their jurisdiction.

Art. 1. All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights. They are endowed with reason and conscience and should act towards on another in a spirit of brotherhood.

Art. 2. Everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set forth in this Declaration, without distinction of any kind, such as race, color, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status.

Furthermore, no distinction shall be made on the basis of the political, jurisdictional or international status of the country or territory to which a person belongs, whether it be independent, trust, non-self-governing or under any other limitation of sovereignty.

Art. 3. Everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of person.

Art. 4. No one shall be held in slavery or servitude; slavery and the slave trade shall be prohibited in all their forms.

Art. 5. No one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.

Art. 6. Everyone has the right to recognition everywhere as a person before the law.

Art. 7. All are equal before the law and are entitled without any discrimination to equal protection of the law. All are entitled to equal protection against any discrimination in violation of the Declaration and against any incitement to such discrimination.

Art. 8. Everyone has the right to an effective remedy by the competent national tribunals for acts violating the fundamental rights granted him by the constitution or by law.

Art. 9. No one shall be subjected to arbitrary arrest, detention or exile.

Art. 10. Everyone is entitled in full equality to a fair and public hearing by an independent and impartial tribunal, in the determination of his rights and obligations and of any criminal charge against him.

Art. 11. (1) Everyone charged with a penal offense has the right to be presumed innocent until proved guilty the guarantees necessary for his defense.

(II) No one shall be held guilty of any penal offense on account of any act of omission which did not constitute a penal offense, under national or international

law, at the time it was committed. Nor shall a heavier penalty be imposed than the one that was applicable at the time the penal offense was committed.

Art. 12. No one shall be subjected to arbitrary interference with his privacy, family, home or correspondence, nor to attacks upon his honor and reputation. Everyone has the right to the protection of the law against such interference or attacks.

Art. 13. (I) Everyone has the right to freedom of movement and residence within the borders of each state.

(II) Everyone has the right to leave any country, including his own, and to return to his country.

Art. 14. (I) Everyone has the right to seek and to enjoy in other countries asylum from persecution.

(II) This right may not be invoked in the case of prosecutions genuinely arising from non-political crimes or from acts contrary to the purposes and principles of the United Nations.

Art. 15. (I) Everyone has the right to a nationality.

(II) No one shall be arbitrarily deprived of his nationality nor denied the right to change his nationality.

Art. 16. (I) Men and women of full age, without any limitation due to race, nationality or religion, have the right to marry and to found a family. They are entitled to equal right as to marriage, during marriage and at its dissolution.

(II) Marriage shall be entered into only with the free and full consent of the intending spouses.

(III) The family is the natural and fundamental group unit of society and is entitled to protection by society and the state.

Art. 17. (I) Everyone has the right to own property as well as in association with others.

(II) No one shall be arbitrarily deprived of his property.

Art. 18. Everyone has the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion, the right includes freedom to change his religion or belief, and freedom, either alone or in community with others and in public or private, to manifest his religion or belief in teaching, practice, worship and observance.

Art. 19. Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes the right to freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers.

Art. 20.(I) Everyone has the right to freedom of peaceful assembly and association.

(II) No one may be compelled to an association.

Art. 21.(1) Everyone has the right to take part in the government of his country, directly or through freely chosen representatives.

(II) Everyone has the right of equal access to public service in his country.

(III) The will of the people shall be the basis of the authority of the government; this will shall be expressed in periodic and genuine elections which, shall be by universal and equal suffrage and shall be held by secret vote or by equivalent free voting procedures.

Art. 22. Everyone, as a member of society, has the right to social security and is entitled to realization, through national effort and international cooperation and in accordance with the organization and resources of each State, of the economic, social and cultural rights indispensable for his dignity and the free development of his personality.

Art. 23. (I) Everyone has the right to work, to free choice of employment, to just and favorable conditions of work and to protection against unemployment.

(II) Everyone, without any discrimination, has the right to equal pay for equal work.

(III) Everyone who works has the right to just and favorable remuneration ensuring for himself and his family an existence worthy of human dignity, and supplemented if necessary, by other means of social protection.

(IV) Everyone has the right to form and to join trade unions for the protection of his interests.

Art. 24. Everyone has the right to rest and leisure, including reasonable limitation of working hours and periodic holidays with pay.

Art. 25. (I) Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and of his family, including food, clothing, housing and medical care and necessary social services, and the right to security in the event of unemployment, sickness, disability, widowhood, old age or other lack of livelihood in circumstances beyond his control.

(II) Motherhood and childhood are entitled to special care and assistance. All children, whether born in or out of wedlock, shall enjoy the same social protection.

Art. 26. (I) Everyone has the right to education. Education shall be free, at least in the elementary and fundamental stages. Elementary education shall be compulsory. Technical and profession educations shall be made generally available and higher education shall be equally accessible to all on the basis of merit.

(II) Education shall be directed to the full development of the human personality and to the strengthening of respect for human rights and friendship

among all nations, racial or religious groups and shall further the activities of the United Nations for the maintenance of peace.

(II) Parents have a prior right to choose the kind of education that shall be given to their children.

Art. 27. (I) Everyone has the right freely to participate in the cultural life of the community, to enjoy the arts and to share in scientific advancement and its benefits.

(II) Everyone has the right to the protection of the moral and material interest resulting from any scientific, literary or artistic production of which he is the author.

Art. 28. Everyone is entitled to a social and international order in which the rights and freedoms set forth in this Declaration can be fully realized.

Art. 29. (I) Everyone has duties to the community in which alone the free and full development of his personality is possible.

(II) In the exercise of his rights and freedoms, everyone shall subject only to such limitations as are determined by law solely for the purposes of securing due recognition and respect for the rights and freedoms of others and of meeting the just requirements of mortality, public order and the general welfare in a democratic society.

(II) These rights and freedoms may in no case be exercised contrary to the purposes and principles of the United Nations.

Art. 30. Nothing in this Declaration may be interpreted as implying for any State, group or person any right to engage in any activity or to perform any act aimed at the destruction of any of the rights and freedoms set forth herein.